



**JEFFERSON COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**  
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## NEWS RELEASE

*For Immediate Release* | *For More Information, Call Wanda Heard at 205.930.1483 or Chris Osborne at 205.930.1023*

### ***Jefferson County Disaster Preparedness Survey set for April 27 – 29***

Representatives from the Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH), the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), and the Jefferson County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) will be conducting Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER) surveys of residents in Jefferson County from April 27- April 29 between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. The survey will evaluate disaster preparedness, mosquito prevention and access to healthcare services provided by JCDH.

The survey is a collaborative effort among the three agencies listed above (JCDH, ADPH & EMA). CASPERs are typically conducted after a disaster to assist public health and emergency management professionals in determining the health status and basic needs of the affected communities, as well as household preparedness for emergencies or disasters. In this non-emergency scenario, several teams consisting of two people will conduct the surveys which will include door-to-door interviews.

Households will be selected randomly to participate in the survey. For identification and safety, all surveyors will be wearing identification badges and a vest which will designate them as a member of the CASPER survey team. Team members will be able to provide a phone number for identification verification. The survey should take between 10 and 15 minutes to complete but will provide vital information in case of an emergency in the future. Participation in this survey is voluntary and the information collected will remain confidential.

Dr. Mark Wilson, Jefferson County Health Officer, stated, "Following any type of disaster, public health and emergency management professionals must be prepared to respond to and meet the needs of the people. The information from this survey will greatly aid in planning for the county. We appreciate the cooperation and participation of the residents in the survey grid."

For questions please call the Jefferson County Department of Health, located in Birmingham, at (205) 933-9110.

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#### **About JCDH**

The Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH) was established in 1917. JCDH serves as the primary resource for public health issues in Jefferson County. JCDH has four health centers strategically located throughout the county. JCDH is responsible for providing health care, preventing the spread of diseases, and protecting against outbreaks. The Department of Health provides outpatient health care for Jefferson County's underinsured and uninsured residents. JCDH health centers provide adult and child dental health, family planning, immunizations, maternity care, nutrition (WIC), case management, and Medicaid. JCDH Disease Control Specialty Clinics include: Tuberculosis, Sexually Transmitted Disease, International Travel and Tot Shot Clinics. Vital Records can be obtained for birth, death or marriage events that occurred in the state of Alabama. Environmental Health Services is responsible for Air and Radiation, Food and Lodging, Community Assessment and Community Environmental Protection. For additional information please visit [www.jcdh.org](http://www.jcdh.org)